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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 4632-74

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Minoru Hirata et al. ) Group Art Unit: To be Assigned  
)  
Application No.: 10/591,166 ) Examiner: To be Assigned  
)  
Filed: August 30, 2006 )  
)  
For: Method and Apparatus for Molding ) Confirmation No.: To be Assigned  
an Upper and a Lower Mold Having )  
No Flask )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Enclosed for the consideration of the Examiner in connection with the prosecution of this case is a copy of a Search Report issued in the corresponding international patent application together with a copy of the cited reference.

In accordance with M.P.E.P. §609, for the relevance of the Japanese patent publication, please refer to the English language version of the Search Report which indicates the relevance of this reference. An abstract in English is also provided for this reference.

Also enclosed is a copy of JP 62-16736 with English abstract cited and discussed on page 1 of the application. It corresponds to U.S. 4,463,794. A Form PTO/SB/08 listing three references is attached to this Statement.

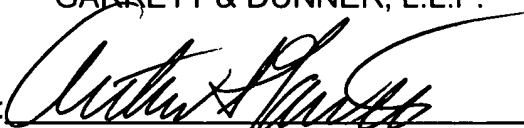
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge such fee to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 14, 2006

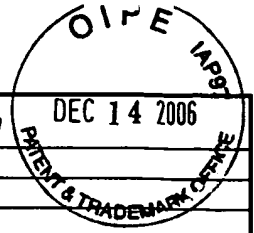
By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur S. Garrett", written over a horizontal line.

Arthur S. Garrett  
Reg. No. 20,338  
Tel: 202 408 4091

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IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/591,166
				Filing Date	August 30, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Minoru Hirata et al.
				Art Unit	To be Assigned
				Examiner Name	To be Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	4632-74



U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-4,463,794	08-07-1984	Toshiyuki Shioda	
		US-			
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**Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 62-16736	04-14-1987	Toyoda Automatic Loom Works		X-Abstract
		JP 3-243243	10-30-1991	Sintokogio Ltd.		X-Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.  
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